Appl. No. 09/713,603 Amdt. dated December 20, 2004 Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group

## REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5 - 12, 14 - 19, and 21 - 23 have been examined. Claim 5 has been identified as allowable except for its dependence from a rejected base claim. Independent Claim 1 has accordingly been amended to include the limitation of Claim 5, which has thus been canceled. Independent Claim 10 has also been amended to include a limitation corresponding to the limitation of Claim 5. It is accordingly believed that the independent claims are therefore allowable and that claims that depend therefrom are allowable by virtue of their dependence from allowable claims.

## **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick M. Boucher Reg. No. 44,037

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 303-571-4000 Fax: 415-576-0300

PMB:pmb 60377501 v1